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ARCHIBALD ROANE MONUMENT COMMISSION RECORDS 1918-1919

RECORD GROUP 83

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SCOPE AND CONTENT

Archibald Roane (1759-1818), Revolutionary Soldier, Attorney General, Member of the Constitutional Convention of 1796, Superior Judge, Supreme Judge, and second Governor of Tennessee, lay in an unmarked grave at Campbell's Station, Knox County, for a century before a monument was erected in his memory.

This record group details the plans, specifications and erection of that monument.

Senator John C. Houk of Knox County attempted to get funds appropriated on three separate occasions, 1897, 1911, and 1917. On his third attempt in 1917, Senator Houk succeeded in getting five hundred dollars appropriated for a monument. Bids were taken and a contract awarded to Hugh Carpenter, monument manufacturer of Sweetwater, Tennessee.

The monument was unveiled on June 26, 1918 with impressive ceremonies, marked by speeches by Senator Houk, Governor Tom Rye, Senator Ingram, and several of Archibald Roane's descendents.

The record group includes copies of the program, newspaper clippings, a portrait of Archibald Roane, several sketches of the monument, copies of contracts, program drafts, invitations and correspondence. The correspondence includes a letter from Theodore Roosevelt.

Other items include an obituary of Governor Roane, a biography, a family history of the Roane family and a list of Archibald Roane's descendants.

Of special interest is the correspondence between Senator Houk and Governor Rye and Senator Houk and the Roane family.

Business correspondence, receipts, replies to invitations by dignitaries, and a history of the movement to erect a monument conclude this brief record group.

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